

L Number	Hits	Search Text	DB	Time stamp
1	11670	(report near2 (generat\$4 or creat\$4))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:04
2	162	((report near2 (generat\$4 or creat\$4))) and report adj2 template	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:04
3	18	((((report near2 (generat\$4 or creat\$4))) and report adj2 template) and record and graph and text and analy\$6 and table	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:04
4	4131	(report near2 (generation or generator or creator or creation))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:04
5	100	((report near2 (generation or generator or creator or creation))) and report adj2 template	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:04
6	13	((((report near2 (generation or generator or creator or creation))) and report adj2 template) and record and graph and text and analy\$6 and table	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:09
7	59	((((report near2 (generation or generator or creator or creation))) and report adj2 template) and (707/.ccls. or 717/.ccls. or 705/.ccls. or 345/.ccls.))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:20
8	19	(((((report near2 (generation or generator or creator or creation))) and report adj2 template) and (707/.ccls. or 717/.ccls. or 705/.ccls. or 345/.ccls.)) and report adj format	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:20
9	1	((((((report near2 (generation or generator or creator or creation))) and report adj2 template) and (707/.ccls. or 717/.ccls. or 705/.ccls. or 345/.ccls.)) and report adj format) and interface and invok\$3	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:21
10	18	((((((report near2 (generation or generator or creator or creation))) and report adj2 template) and (707/.ccls. or 717/.ccls. or 705/.ccls. or 345/.ccls.)) and report adj format) and interface	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 10:21

L Number	Hits	Search Text	DB	Time stamp
1	11871	(generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near2 report	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 08:04
2	308	(generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near (graph and (text or table))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 08:06
3	51	((generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near2 report) and ((generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near (graph and (text or table)))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 08:05
4	21	(generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near (graph and (text and table))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 08:08
5	6	((generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near2 report) and ((generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near (graph and (text and table)))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 08:06
6	5	(((generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near2 report) and ((generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near (graph and (text and table)))) and interface	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 08:09
7	49	(((generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near2 report) and ((generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3) near (graph and (text or table)))) and interface	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 08:09
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1	1598	generator near9 report	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:25
2	193	(generator near9 report) and 707/\$.ccls.	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:20
3	11	((generator near9 report) and 707/\$.ccls.) and record adj set	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:23
4	48	((generator near9 report) and 707/\$.ccls.) and graph and table and text	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:23
5	12	((generator near9 report) and 707/\$.ccls.) and graph and table and text and (invok\$3 near9 interface)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:26
6	17086	(generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near9 report	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:26
7	121	(generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near4 (graph and table and text)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:35
8	45	((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near9 report) and ((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near4 (graph and table and text))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:26
9	9	((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near9 report) and ((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near4 (graph and table and text)) and (invok\$3 near9 interface)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:42
10	21	(generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near (graph and table and text)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:30
11	11	((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near9 report) and ((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near (graph and table and text))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:30
12	45	(generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near4 (graph and table and text and report)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:45
13	24	(generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near2 (graph and table and text and report)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:48

14	1	((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near2 (graph and table and text and report)) and (invok\$3 with interface)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:43
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18	25	((((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near4 (graph and table and text and report)) and (707/\$.ccls. or 345/\$.ccls. or 717/\$.ccls.)) and (invok\$3 and interface)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:46
19	645	((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near2 report).ti.	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:49
20	11	((((generat\$6 or creat\$6 or build\$4) near2 report).ti.) and (707/\$.ccls. or 345/\$.ccls. or 717/\$.ccls.))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:49

L Number	Hits	Search Text	DB	Time stamp
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3	111	((report adj (generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3 or construct\$5 or implement\$4)) and (generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3 or construct\$5 or implement\$4) near9 interfac\$3 near9 (call\$3 or invok\$6 or module or program or procedure)) and graph and text and table	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 06:57
4	1	(((report adj (generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3 or construct\$5 or implement\$4)) and (generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3 or construct\$5 or implement\$4) near9 interfac\$3 near9 (call\$3 or invok\$6 or module or program or procedure)) and graph and text and table) and (reduc\$5 near6 programm\$4 near5 time!)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 06:51
5	56	(((report adj (generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3 or construct\$5 or implement\$4)) and (generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3 or construct\$5 or implement\$4) near9 interfac\$3 near9 (call\$3 or invok\$6 or module or program or procedure)) and graph and text and table) and (reduc\$5 near9 time!)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 06:51
6	5908	report adj generat\$5	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 06:57
7	58	(report adj generat\$5) and graph same (analy\$6 text\$5) same table	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 06:57
8	2	((report adj generat\$5) and graph same (analy\$6 text\$5) same table) and (generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3 or construct\$5 or implement\$4) near9 interfac\$3 near9 invok\$6	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:01
9	36	(report adj generat\$5) and (generat\$5 or creat\$6 or build\$3 or construct\$5 or implement\$4) near9 interfac\$3 near9 invok\$6	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:01
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11	12	(report adj generat\$5) and (generat\$5) near9 interface near9 invok\$6	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:06
12	540	(graph and (text or table)) near3 generat\$5	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:06
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14	17	((graph and (text or table)) near3 generat\$5) and interface near9 invok\$6	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:07
15	3	((((graph and (text or table)) near3 generat\$5) and interface near9 invok\$6) and (report adj generat\$5)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2004/03/24 07:07

Patent Assignment Abstract of Title

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Application #: 09945292 **Filing Dt:** 08/31/2001

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Publication #: 20030046264

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Inventor: Mark Bykerk Kauffman

Title: Report generation system and method

Assignment: 1

Reel/Frame: <u>012567/0912</u>	Received: 02/15/2002	Recorded: 01/29/2002	Mailed: 04/10/2002	Pages: 2
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Conveyance: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNEORS INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

Assignor: KAUFFMAN, MARK BYKERK

Exec Dt: 10/04/2001

Assignee: HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 272400
FORT COLLINS, COLORADO 80527

Correspondent: HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY

STEVEN L. WEBB
LEGAL DEPT. MS 79
3404 E. HARMONY ROAD
FORT COLLINS, CO 80528

Assignment: 2

Reel/Frame: <u>014061/0492</u>	Received: 09/30/2003	Recorded: 09/30/2003	Mailed: 03/22/2004	Pages: 110
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Conveyance: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNEORS INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

Assignor: HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY

Exec Dt: 09/26/2003

Assignee: HEWLETT-PACKARD DEVELOPMENT COMPANY L.P.

20555 SH 249
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77070

Correspondent: HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY

GUY J. KELLEY
P.O. BOX 272400
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

Search Results as of: 3/24/2004 8:21:05 A.M.

If you have any comments or questions concerning the data displayed, contact OPR / Assignments at 703-308-9723
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TITLE: Report generation system and method

----- KWIC -----

Abstract Paragraph - ABTX (1):

The present invention is directed to a system and method of improved report generation. In one embodiment, the present invention provides a computer-implemented report generation system that generally includes a first generator and a second generator. The first generator is operably linked through a first interface to one or more associated first type components which invokes first type components to generate a report element of the first type. Likewise, the second generator is operably linked through a second interface to one or more associated second type components which invokes second type components to generate a report element of a second type. The first and second type generators each invoke at least one component in response to processing first and second type included component sections that identify the at least one first and second type components to be invoked.

Title - TTL (1):

Report generation system and method

Summary of Invention Paragraph - BSTX (2):

[0001] The present invention relates in general to a data processing system, and in particular to a system and method for automatic report generation.

Summary of Invention Paragraph - BSTX (4):

[0002] Report generation systems are used to streamline the process of transforming raw data, relating to the performance or quality of a subject (e.g., server, network, system), into a report for efficiently conveying relevant information contained within the data. It is desirable for these systems to be able to include various types of information including text, table, and graph elements within the generated report. Existing report generating systems with such capabilities are typically implemented with computer programs specifically written for a desired report to be generated.

Unfortunately, however, such systems are not very flexible in that they can only generate a specific type of report. In other words, a separate program is required for each different type of report. Likewise, when the form or content of a report needs to be modified, the entire program must be appropriately modified. Not only can this consume excessive programmer time, but it also results in large files being transferred and/or displaced when an existing system is being updated.

Summary of Invention Paragraph - BSTX (6):

[0003] The present invention is directed to a system and method of improved report generation. In one embodiment, the present invention provides a computer-implemented report generation system that generally includes a first generator and a second generator. The first generator is operably linked through a first interface to one or more associated first type components which invokes first type components to generate a report element of the first type. Likewise, the second generator is operably linked through a second interface to one or more associated second type components which invokes second type components to generate a report element of a second type. The first and second type generators each invoke at least one component in response to processing first and second type included component sections that identify the at least one first and second type components to be invoked.

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (2):

[0004] FIGS. 1A and 1B depict one embodiment of a report generation system of the present invention;

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (3):

[0005] FIG. 2 depicts the component structure of an exemplary report generation system of the present invention;

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (4):

[0006] FIG. 3 depicts an included components record for the exemplary report generation system of FIG. 2;

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (5):

[0007] FIG. 4 depicts a variable text definitions record for the exemplary report generation system of FIGS. 2 and 3;

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (6):

[0008] FIGS. 5A and 5B depict a report template for the exemplary report generation system of FIGS. 2, 3, and 4; and

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (7):

[0009] FIGS. 6A and 6B depict a final report generated from the exemplary report generation system of FIGS. 2, 3, 4, 5A, and 5B.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (2):

[0010] The present invention provides a report generation system that can be expanded and/or modified while the core program remains in place. Separate program components are used for creating the report elements that can be included in a report. In generating a report, a report generator processes included-components section(s) that are associated with the report. Note that the term section is used in this document instead of the term table to avoid confusion between the usage of the word table to refer to a table in the report and table to refer to a database construct. Also this document will use the term record to refer to an entire set of database tables, while the term entry will be used to refer to one record in a database table. The included components section(s) define the specific components to be invoked for generating the desired elements that will be included in the report. That is, the included components section(s) defines the report by determining which elements will be generated and included within the report. The use of included components section(s) results in several advantages over existing schemes. In order to modify a report format, changes only need to be made to the relevant included components section(s), along with appropriate changes to, or additions of (if necessary), certain components. Among other things, this reduces the amount of code sent to customers when modifications are made. It also reduces the programming time required to create new types of reports.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (3):

[0011] FIGS. 1A and 1B show one embodiment of a Report Generation System 100

of the present invention. Report generation System 100 generally includes a report generator 110, a collected data record 105, and a corresponding report template file 115. The collected data record 105 is input to report generator 110 and provides it with collected data that will be the subject of the generated report. From the collected data, the report generator 110 generates

report elements, for example graph elements 172, table elements 174, and text elements 176. These elements are combined with the report template file 115 for creating the final report (or report file).

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (4):

[0012] The collected data record 105 includes one or more parameters associated with the system for which the report is to be generated. For example, a server such as an e-mail server could be monitored and data associated with its various operational parameters would then be collected in a collected data record 105. These parameters could include, for example, CPU work load, work Q length, inbound message total, outbound message total, received message rate, and the like. Report elements (graphs 172, tables 174, text 176) would be generated to describe the operation of the server based on processed combinations of these data parameters.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (5):

[0013] The report template file 115 serves as the foundation for the generated final report for a given report type. It includes constant information sections 116 and variable information fields 117, 118, 119. The constant information sections 116 can contain information of any type (e.g., graph, table, text) that will be part of every report instance for the given report type. Conversely, the variable information fields 117, 118, 119 identify the variable portions of the report that will receive (or be filled by) the generated report elements 172, 174, 176. In the depicted embodiment, there are several different types of fields that may be included within a template 115. These fields include graph information fields 117, table information fields 118, and text information fields 119. A graph information field 117 identifies a specific graph element 172 and specifies where it is to be inserted in the generated report. Likewise, a table information field 118 identifies a specific table element 174 and specifies where it is to be inserted in the report. Finally, a text data field 119 identifies a specific text element 176 and specifies where it is to be inserted in the generated report. In generating a report, the report generator 110 calls on the different components to create graph elements 172, table elements 174, and text elements 176, which will be inserted into their appropriate fields within the report template file 115.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (6):

[0014] Any suitable scheme may be used for implementing a report template. In one embodiment, an MS WORD word processing application is utilized for

processing a MS WORD-based report template file 115. Compatible report elements (e.g., .gra graphs, .xls tables, .doc text files) are generated by the report generator 110 and made available to the MS WORD application.

Suitable

macros are provided for processing the variable information fields 117, 118, 119 in order to retrieve the appropriate report elements and insert them into the proper portions of the report template file 115 for creating the final report file.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (7):

[0015] A report generation system 100 can include numerous collected data records 105 and numerous report templates 115 for generating a variety of different reports (e.g., for different customers and different monitored systems). In addition, different instances of a given collected data record 105 can be used to generate different resulting report instances. For example, a particular collected data record 105 could be used for storing collected operating parameter data for a server system on a weekly basis. Each week, an updated instance of the collected data record 105 would be used to generate an updated report.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (8):

[0016] In a preferred embodiment, the report generator 110 is a component based system that generally includes a graph generator 120, a table generator 130 and generator 140, along with included coms ("components") record set data base 150 and a variable definitions data base 160. Each type of generator (graph 120, table 130, text 140) is operably linked through a common interface to one or more associated components for generating separate element options of the associated type (graph, table, text). In the depicted embodiment, graph generator 120 is operably linked to graph components 122A through 122N, via graph com interface 124. Similarly, table generator 130 is operably linked to table components 132AA through 132NN, via table com interface 134. Finally, the text generator 140 is linked to text analyzer components 142AAA through 142NNN, via a text analyzer com interface 144.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (11):

[0019] The included components (coms) record set database 150 comprises included com records 152, which are processed by generators 120, 130, 140 in order to generate the report elements 172, 174, 176. Each included components

record 152 preferably has one or more of a graph element section 153, a table element section 155, and/or an analyzer element section 157 for identifying the specific graph, table, and/or analyzer components to be invoked for generating the desired, predefined elements that will be included within the report. Each section 153, 155, 157 comprises a table (or list) of one or more component entries, with each com entry corresponding to a specific component that will be invoked by a generator. Each entry preferably includes, in one column, a unique universal identifier ("UUID") and, in another column, a descriptive component title. The UUID identifies the component associated with the entry. Because each component generates a separate one or more elements, each component entry corresponds to a separate one or more elements that will be included in the final output report file. Thus, a report can be modified to add or remove elements, simply by changing, adding, or removing com entries within the included components record that is associated with the report that is to be so modified. The separate included components sections 153, 155, 157 can be part of the same record (as in the depicted embodiment) or alternatively, organized into separate records and/or stored in separate databases, if so desired.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (12):

[0020] The variable definitions data base 160 contains text to be used by the text analyzer components in generating their respective elements. For example, with regard to the text analyzer components 142AAA-142NNN, the variable definitions data base 160 includes tables of text excerpts that are mapped to specific variable values. When a text analyzer component is invoked to generate a text element, the element retrieves data from the collected data record 105 and derives one or more values corresponding to messages to be conveyed in the report. The derived values would then be used to retrieve the appropriate text excerpt element(s) from database 160.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (14):

[0022] In operation, a collected data record 105 is input to the report generation system 110. This causes the generators 120, 130 and 140 to retrieve and process appropriate included components sections 153, 155, 157, respectively, as needed. Appropriate sections may be designated by a user or they may have been previously associated with the particular collected data record 105. In processing its included components section, each generator instantiates and invokes one or more element generating components, as identified in the included components sections to generate particular elements based on the collected data within the collected data record 105. These generated elements are then made available to a report template file 115 that

is associated with the retrieved and processed included components sections. Finally, the elements are inserted into their appropriate variable fields within the template 115 resulting in a generated final report (or report file).

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (15):

[0023] With reference to FIGS. 2-6B, a simple example illustrating a representative portion of a Microsoft Xchange mail server report generation system will now be presented. FIG. 2 depicts one particular component structure 200 for implementing the exemplary report generation system. The highest level component is the Xchange report control component 205. It includes an Xchange analysis engine component 210. In turn, Xchange analysis engine component 210 further includes graph generator component 220, table generator 230, and analysis generator 240. Xchange analysis engine component 210 corresponds to the report generator block 110 from FIG. 1. Similarly, the graph generator, table generator, and analysis generator components 220, 230, 240 correspond to the graph, table, and text generator blocks 120, 130 and 140, respectively, from FIG. 1.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (16):

[0024] The graph generator component 220 is operably linked through a common interface to Xchange graph components 222A through 222N. Each Xchange graph component corresponds to a separate component for generating a particular one or more graphs available to the system. CSV file 228 is a raw data file comprising information to be formed into a graph. The interface between these Xchange graph components 222 and the graph generator 220 includes at least a "draw" method, which allows the graph generator 220 to invoke a selected graph component to generate the one or more graph elements. In addition, each Xchange graph component 222A through 222N, includes a COM chart component 224, which in turn includes a POM chart DLL 226. The COM chart component is merely a COM wrapper or interface for the POM chart DLL. The COM chart allows each graph component to use COM to make calls to the non-COM code in POM chart. The POM chart 226 or performance optimization module chart is a DLL (dynamic link

library) that contains methods that are used to convert CSV file 228 into graphs. The POM chart DLL does the actual work of converting collected data into a graph.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (17):

[0025] Similarly, the table generator component 230 is operably linked through a common interface to Xchange table components 232A through 232N. Each of these components corresponds to a separate one or more table options that can be generated within the report generation system. The interface between the table generator 230 and each of the table components 232A through 232N includes at least a "build" method, which when invoked by table generator 230 causes the invoked component to generate a particular one or more table elements. Thus, each graph component uses POM chart, via COM chart, to convert a graph record set into a CSV file which is then converted into a graph for inclusion in the report.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (18):

[0026] Finally, the analysis generator 240 is operably linked through a common interface to Xchange analyzer components 242A through 242E. In the depicted embodiment, these components include an MTA analyzer component 242A, an IS analyzer component 242B, a DS analyzer component 242C, a CONFIG analyzer component 242D, and an SA analyzer component 242E. Each of these components corresponds to a separate one or more text element(s) for describing the operational performance of various parameters in an Exchange mail server. The interface between analysis generator 240A and each of the analyzer components 242A through 242E includes at least a "write" method, which when invoked by analysis generator 240, causes a particular one or more text elements to be generated.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (19):

[0027] Also shown in FIG. 2 is the Xchange report included components database 250. This database includes the various included components records, which define the possible reports that can be generated by the system. Included components database 250 comprises a graph record set 253, a table

record set 255, and an analysis (text) record set 257. Each of the records in these record sets correspond to an included components section from FIG. 1, and

are associated with a particular report to be generated, along with a particular report template file. Accordingly, each record (or section) includes one or more component identifiers for identifying the components from its generator type (graph, table, analyzer) that will be invoked for its associated report.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (20):

[0028] With respect to the depicted embodiment, the "has a" items are explicitly defined at compile time, while the "uses" items are defined in the included components database 250. In this embodiment, database 250 is used not

only for storing the included components records/sections, but also, it is used for storing/defining the utilized variable definitions. Thus, database 250 corresponds to both the included coms database 150 and the variable definitions database 160 from FIG. 1. The generators 220, 230, and 240 determine which element generating "uses" components (222, 232, 242) to instantiate at run-time by processing (e.g., reading) the included components sections for a particular report that is to be generated. The items of FIGS. 2-6B, including the text, the graph, and table components 222A-22N, 232A-232N are generically represented

for illustrative purposes but in an actual implementation would have specific names corresponding to the information or parameters they are to convey.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (23):

[0031] FIGS. 5A and 5B show the record template for this example. It corresponds to a Word-based record template file. The record template comprises constant information sections 510A through 510F, variable graph information field 530A, variable table information field 540A, and variable text information fields 520A, 520B. It also includes a server name field 515A embedded within constant information field 510A. When the various components

identified by included coms record 300 are invoked, report elements for each of these variable fields are generated and made available to the report template processor, which in this example is a Word application with suitable Macros. In processing the Word template file, the Word application retrieves and inserts the generated report elements into their corresponding fields. It also inserts the name of the server into the name field 515A.

US-PAT-NO: **6656683**

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6656683 B1

TITLE: Laser scanning cytology with digital image capture

----- KWIC -----

US Patent No. - PN (1):

6656683

Detailed Description Text - DETX (82):

The report template is opened in Microsoft Word, and the appropriate patient identifier number is entered in the top portion of the report. The morphologic diagnosis as verified by the Cytopathologist is entered. In the comment section, the ploidy analysis as verified by the Cytopathologist is entered. The Cytologic Findings Image box is selected, and the image is inserted, as selected by the cytopathologist, from the patient file. The size is adjusted as needed. The DNA Content Image box is selected, and the DNA histogram from the patient file is selected. The size as adjusted as needed. The longitudinal analysis box is selected and the longitudinal graph is inserted. The size is adjusted as needed. The Final Diagnostic Category box is selected, and the date is entered, the file is saved, and the data is printed and submitted for a cytopathologist's signature.

Current US Cross Reference Classification - CCXR (1):

345/418

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20030046264 A1

TITLE: Report generation system and method

----- KWIC -----

Abstract Paragraph - ABTX (1):

The present invention is directed to a system and method of improved report generation. In one embodiment, the present invention provides a computer-implemented report generation system that generally includes a first generator and a second generator. The first generator is operably linked through a first interface to one or more associated first type components which invokes first type components to generate a report element of the first type. Likewise, the second generator is operably linked through a second interface to one or more associated second type components which invokes second type components to generate a report element of a second type. The first and second type generators each invoke at least one component in response to processing first and second type included component sections that identify the at least one first and second type components to be invoked.

Title - TTL (1):

Report generation system and method

Summary of Invention Paragraph - BSTX (2):

[0001] The present invention relates in general to a data processing system, and in particular to a system and method for automatic report generation.

Summary of Invention Paragraph - BSTX (4):

[0002] Report generation systems are used to streamline the process of transforming raw data, relating to the performance or quality of a subject (e.g., server, network, system), into a report for efficiently conveying relevant information contained within the data. It is desirable for these systems to be able to include various types of information including text,

table, and graph elements within the generated report. Existing report generating systems with such capabilities are typically implemented with computer programs specifically written for a desired report to be generated. Unfortunately, however, such systems are not very flexible in that they can only generate a specific type of report. In other words, a separate program is required for each different type of report. Likewise, when the form or content of a report needs to be modified, the entire program must be appropriately modified. Not only can this consume excessive programmer time, but it also results in large files being transferred and/or displaced when an existing system is being updated.

Summary of Invention Paragraph - BSTX (6):

[0003] The present invention is directed to a system and method of improved report generation. In one embodiment, the present invention provides a computer-implemented report generation system that generally includes a first generator and a second generator. The first generator is operably linked through a first interface to one or more associated first type components which invokes first type components to generate a report element of the first type. Likewise, the second generator is operably linked through a second interface to one or more associated second type components which invokes second type components to generate a report element of a second type. The first and second type generators each invoke at least one component in response to processing first and second type included component sections that identify the at least one first and second type components to be invoked.

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (2):

[0004] FIGS. 1A and 1B depict one embodiment of a report generation system of the present invention;

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (3):

[0005] FIG. 2 depicts the component structure of an exemplary report generation system of the present invention;

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (4):

[0006] FIG. 3 depicts an included components record for the exemplary report

generation system of FIG. 2;

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (5):

[0007] FIG. 4 depicts a variable text definitions record for the exemplary report generation system of FIGS. 2 and 3;

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (6):

[0008] FIGS. 5A and 5B depict a report template for the exemplary report generation system of FIGS. 2, 3, and 4; and

Brief Description of Drawings Paragraph - DRTX (7):

[0009] FIGS. 6A and 6B depict a final report generated from the exemplary report generation system of FIGS. 2, 3, 4, 5A, and 5B.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (2):

[0010] The present invention provides a report generation system that can be expanded and/or modified while the core program remains in place. Separate program components are used for creating the report elements that can be included in a report. In generating a report, a report generator processes included-components section(s) that are associated with the report. Note that the term section is used in this document instead of the term table to avoid confusion between the usage of the word table to refer to a table in the report and table to refer to a database construct. Also this document will use the term record to refer to an entire set of database tables, while the term entry will be used to refer to one record in a database table. The included components section(s) define the specific components to be invoked for generating the desired elements that will be included in the report. That is, the included components section(s) defines the report by determining which elements will be generated and included within the report. The use of included components section(s) results in several advantages over existing schemes. In order to modify a report format, changes only need to be made to the relevant included components section(s), along with appropriate changes to, or additions of (if necessary), certain components. Among other things, this reduces the amount of code sent to customers when modifications are made. It also reduces the programming time required to create new types of reports.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (3):

[0011] FIGS. 1A and 1B show one embodiment of a Report Generation

System 100

of the present invention. **Report generation** System 100 generally includes a **report generator** 110, a collected data record 105, and a corresponding report template file 115. The collected data record 105 is input to **report generator** 110 and provides it with collected data that will be the subject of the generated report. From the collected data, the **report generator** 110 generates report elements, for example **graph** elements 172, **table** elements 174, and **text** elements 176. These elements are combined with the report template file 115 for creating the final report (or report file).

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (4):

[0012] The collected data record 105 includes one or more parameters associated with the system for which the **report is to be generated**. For example, a server such as an e-mail server could be monitored and data associated with its various operational parameters would then be collected in a collected data record 105. These parameters could include, for example, CPU work load, work Q length, inbound message total, outbound message total, received message rate, and the like. Report elements (graphs 172, tables 174, **text** 176) would be generated to describe the operation of the server based on processed combinations of these data parameters.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (5):

[0013] The report template file 115 serves as the foundation for the generated final report for a given report type. It includes constant information sections 116 and variable information fields 117, 118, 119. The constant information sections 116 can contain information of any type (e.g., **graph**, **table**, **text**) that will be part of every report instance for the given report type. Conversely, the variable information fields 117, 118, 119 identify the variable portions of the report that will receive (or be filled by) the generated report elements 172, 174, 176. In the depicted embodiment, there are several different types of fields that may be included within a template 115. These fields include **graph** information fields 117, **table** information fields 118, and **text** information fields 119. A **graph** information field 117 identifies a specific **graph** element 172 and specifies where it is to be inserted in the generated report. Likewise, a **table** information field 118 identifies a specific **table** element 174 and specifies where it is to be inserted in the report. Finally, a **text** data field 119 identifies a specific **text** element 176 and specifies where it is to be inserted in the generated report. In generating a report, the **report generator** 110 calls on the different components to create **graph** elements 172, **table** elements 174, and **text** elements 176, which will be inserted into their appropriate fields within the

report template file 115.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (6):

[0014] Any suitable scheme may be used for implementing a report template. In one embodiment, an MS WORD word processing application is utilized for processing a MS WORD-based report template file 115. Compatible report elements (e.g., .gra graphs, .xls tables, .doc text files) are generated by the report generator 110 and made available to the MS WORD application.

Suitable

macros are provided for processing the variable information fields 117, 118, 119 in order to retrieve the appropriate report elements and insert them into the proper portions of the report template file 115 for creating the final report file.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (7):

[0015] A report generation system 100 can include numerous collected data records 105 and numerous report templates 115 for generating a variety of different reports (e.g., for different customers and different monitored systems). In addition, different instances of a given collected data record 105 can be used to generate different resulting report instances. For example, a particular collected data record 105 could be used for storing collected operating parameter data for a server system on a weekly basis. Each week, an updated instance of the collected data record 105 would be used to generate an updated report.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (8):

[0016] In a preferred embodiment, the report generator 110 is a component based system that generally includes a graph generator 120, a table generator 130 and generator 140, along with included coms ("components") record set data base 150 and a variable definitions data base 160. Each type of generator (graph 120, table 130, text 140) is operably linked through a common interface to one or more associated components for generating separate element options of the associated type (graph, table, text). In the depicted embodiment, graph generator 120 is operably linked to graph components 122A through 122N, via graph com interface 124. Similarly, table generator 130 is operably linked to table components 132AA through 132NN, via table com interface 134. Finally, the text generator 140 is linked to text analyzer components 142AAA through 142NNN, via a text analyzer com interface 144.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (10):

[0018] The interfaces 124, 134, and 144, correspond to the collection of methods that can be invoked by the generators 120, 130, 140, respectively, each

interface includes at least one method for causing a component to generate an element of its given type.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (11):

[0019] The included components (coms) record set database 150 comprises included com records 152, which are processed by generators 120, 130, 140 in order to generate the report elements 172, 174, 176. Each included components

record 152 preferably has one or more of a graph element section 153, a table element section 155, and/or an analyzer element section 157 for identifying the specific graph, table, and/or analyzer components to be invoked for generating the desired, predefined elements that will be included within the report. Each section 153, 155, 157 comprises a table (or list) of one or more component entries, with each com entry corresponding to a specific component that will be invoked by a generator. Each entry preferably includes, in one column, a unique universal identifier ("UUID") and, in another column, a descriptive component title. The UUID identifies the component associated with the entry. Because each component generates a separate one or more elements, each component entry corresponds to a separate one or more elements that will be included in the final output report file. Thus, a report can be modified to add or remove elements, simply by changing, adding, or removing com entries within the included components record that is associated with the report that is to be so modified. The separate included components sections 153, 155, 157 can be part of the same record (as in the depicted embodiment) or alternatively, organized into separate records and/or stored in separate databases, if so desired.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (12):

[0020] The variable definitions data base 160 contains text to be used by the text analyzer components in generating their respective elements. For example, with regard to the text analyzer components 142AAA-142NNN, the variable definitions data base 160 includes tables of text excerpts that are mapped to specific variable values. When a text analyzer component is invoked to generate a text element, the element retrieves data from the collected data record 105 and derives one or more values corresponding to messages to be conveyed in the report. The derived values would then be used to retrieve the

appropriate text excerpt element(s) from database 160.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (14):

[0022] In operation, a collected data record 105 is input to the report generation system 110. This causes the generators 120, 130 and 140 to retrieve and process appropriate included components sections 153, 155, 157, respectively, as needed. Appropriate sections may be designated by a user or they may have been previously associated with the particular collected data record 105. In processing its included components section, each generator instantiates and invokes one or more element generating components, as identified in the included components sections to generate particular elements based on the collected data within the collected data record 105. These generated elements are then made available to a report template file 115 that is associated with the retrieved and processed included components sections. Finally, the elements are inserted into their appropriate variable fields within the template 115 resulting in a generated final report (or report file).

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (15):

[0023] With reference to FIGS. 2-6B, a simple example illustrating a representative portion of a Microsoft Xchange mail server report generation system will now be presented. FIG. 2 depicts one particular component structure 200 for implementing the exemplary report generation system. The highest level component is the Xchange report control component 205. It includes an Xchange analysis engine component 210. In turn, Xchange analysis engine component 210 further includes graph generator component 220, table generator 230, and analysis generator 240. Xchange analysis engine component 210 corresponds to the report generator block 110 from FIG. 1. Similarly, the graph generator, table generator, and analysis generator components 220, 230, 240 correspond to the graph, table, and text generator blocks 120, 130 and 140, respectively, from FIG. 1.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (16):

[0024] The graph generator component 220 is operably linked through a common interface to Xchange graph components 222A through 222N. Each Xchange graph component corresponds to a separate component for generating a particular one or more graphs available to the system. CSV file 228 is a raw data file

comprising information to be formed into a graph. The interface between these Xchange graph components 222 and the graph generator 220 includes at least a

"draw" method, which allows the graph generator 220 to invoke a selected graph

component to generate the one or more graph elements. In addition, each Xchange graph component 222A through 222N, includes a COM chart component 224,

which in turn includes a POM chart DLL 226. The COM chart component is merely

a COM wrapper or interface for the POM chart DLL. The COM chart allows each graph component to use COM to make calls to the non-COM code in POM chart. The

POM chart 226 or performance optimization module chart is a DLL (dynamic link library) that contains methods that are used to convert CSV file 228 into graphs. The POM chart DLL does the actual work of converting collected data into a graph.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (17):

[0025] Similarly, the table generator component 230 is operably linked through a common interface to Xchange table components 232A through 232N. Each

of these components corresponds to a separate one or more table options that can be generated within the report generation system. The interface between the table generator 230 and each of the table components 232A through 232N includes at least a "build" method, which when invoked by table generator 230 causes the invoked component to generate a particular one or more table elements. Thus, each graph component uses POM chart, via COM chart, to convert

a graph record set into a CSV file which is then converted into a graph for inclusion in the report.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (18):

[0026] Finally, the analysis generator 240 is operably linked through a common interface to Xchange analyzer components 242A through 242E. In the depicted embodiment, these components include an MTA analyzer component 242A,

an IS analyzer component 242B, a DS analyzer component 242C, a CONFIG analyzer

component 242D, and an SA analyzer component 242E. Each of these components

corresponds to a separate one or more text element(s) for describing the

operational performance of various parameters in an Exchange mail server. The interface between analysis generator 240A and each of the analyzer components

242A through 242E includes at least a "write" method, which when invoked by analysis generator 240, causes a particular one or more text elements to be generated.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (19):

[0027] Also shown in FIG. 2 is the Xchange report included components database 250. This database includes the various included components records,

which define the possible reports that can be generated by the system.

Included components database 250 comprises a graph record set 253, a table record set 255, and an analysis (text) record set 257. Each of the records in these record sets correspond to an included components section from FIG. 1, and

are associated with a particular report to be generated, along with a particular report template file. Accordingly, each record (or section) includes one or more component identifiers for identifying the components from its generator type (graph, table, analyzer) that will be invoked for its associated report.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (20):

[0028] With respect to the depicted embodiment, the "has a" items are explicitly defined at compile time, while the "uses" items are defined in the included components database 250. In this embodiment, database 250 is used not

only for storing the included components records/sections, but also, it is used for storing/defining the utilized variable definitions. Thus, database 250 corresponds to both the included coms database 150 and the variable definitions database 160 from FIG. 1. The generators 220, 230, and 240 determine which element generating "uses" components (222, 232, 242) to instantiate at run-time by processing (e.g., reading) the included components sections for a particular report that is to be generated. The items of FIGS. 2-6B, including the text, the graph, and table components 222A-22N, 232A-232N are generically represented

for illustrative purposes but in an actual implementation would have specific names corresponding to the information or parameters they are to convey.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (21):

[0029] FIG. 3 shows the included components record 300 that is used in this

example. Record 300 includes a graph section 320, a table section 330, and an analysis section 340. In the graph section, one graph component entry is shown. This entry includes UUID "1X5TBCJ8" at 322 with an associated component

title "XchGraph4.Graph" at 324. The table section 330 also has a single component entry, which has UUID "ZB4852LP" at 332 with an associated component

title "XchTable9.Table" at 334. Likewise, the analysis section 340 has a single component entry, which has UUID "NY04TJ3R" at 342 with an associated component title "XchMTA.Analyzer" at 344. Thus, in this example, three components are invoked for the generation of three elements an XchGraph4 graph

element, an XchTable9 table element, and an XchMTA analyzer element.

These

elements are provided to an associated report template file, which will be presented below with respect to FIGS. 5A and 5B.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (22):

[0030] FIG. 4 shows a portion of the text definitions that are used by the XchMTA analyzer component 242A in this example. These definitions are stored

in database 250 and correspond to the variable definitions described with respect to database 160 from FIG. 1. Variable values 411, 413, 415 and 417 map

to text excerpts 412, 414, 416 and 418, respectively. When invoked by the analysis generator component 240 (in response to processing the included components section 340), the XchMTA analyzer component 242A retrieves and processes relevant collected data (from a collected data record not shown) corresponding to the MTA parameter(s) that are to be described by the text.

The XchMTA component 242A processes this data and derives one or more of the

depicted values, 411, 413, 415, or 417 based on desired, predefined criterion within the component. The invoked component 242A then retrieves the text excerpt(s) 412, 414, 416, or 418 that correspond to the derived value(s) and provides the retrieved excerpt(s) to the report template as text element(s) for insertion therein.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (23):

[0031] FIGS. 5A and 5B show the record template for this example. It corresponds to a Word-based record template file. The record template comprises constant information sections 510A through 510F, variable graph information field 530A, variable table information field 540A, and variable

text information fields 520A, 520B. It also includes a server name field 515A embedded within constant information field 510A. When the various components

identified by included coms record 300 are invoked, report elements for each of these variable fields are generated and made available to the report template processor, which in this example is a Word application with suitable Macros. In processing the Word template file, the Word application retrieves and inserts the generated report elements into their corresponding fields. It also inserts the name of the server into the name field 515A.

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (24):

[0032] FIGS. 6A and 6B show the final report file after the elements have been so inserted. As depicted in the drawings, constant text sections 610A through 610F, which correspond to the constant information sections 510A-510F,

are carried through from the report template to the final report. In addition, the server name, "XB0104" at 615A appears in the appropriate name field location. Likewise, the XchGraph 4 graph element appears at 630A in its graph field location; the XchTable 9 table element appears at 640A in its table field location; and the XchMTA text elements appear at 620A and 620B in their text field locations.

Claims Text - CLTX (2):

1. A computer-implemented report generation system, comprising: a first generator, operably linked through a first interface to one or more associated

first type components, which invokes at least one first type component to generate a report element of a first type; and a second generator, operably linked through a second interface to one or more associated second type components, which invokes at least one second type component to generate a

report element of a second type; wherein said first and second generators each invoke at least one component in response to processing first and second type included component sections that respectively identify the at least one first and second type components to be invoked.

Claims Text - CLTX (7):

6. The system of claim 1 wherein the one or more first type components generate one of graph elements, text elements, and table elements.



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